

ILLUSTRIOUS DEAD  
OF THE PAST YEAR

Dr. Wallace Radcliffe's Comprehensive Review.

## FRIENDS OF THE DISTRICT

Those Who in Political Life Aided in the Advancement of the Nation's Capital.

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The deaths were classified according to the business or profession in which the subject gained fame. Business, art, architecture, sculpture, music, science, exploration, literature, politics, war, ecclesiastical life, and many other occupations had their history makers. Dr. Radcliffe eulogized these as follows:

In business, Mackay, the last of the bonanza kings; Dupont, of powder fame; Marquand, banker and philanthropist; Krupp, of cannon fame, wealthy, wise, benevolent, whose tragic end presented the dramatic picture of the imperial shield protecting the family and memory of the dead; Tiffany, whose name sparkles with the associations of jewels and precious stones, and Shepherd, a name to conjure with in the Capital, whose presence was familiar in these pews, whose generosity presented you an organ for our church praise, and whose indomitable energy and far-seeing wisdom assailed our provincial conservatism, and transformed the country village into this beautiful and commanding Capital.

In art, Bierstadt, who so grandly emphasized the glory and power of American landscape; Cooper, who for sixty-seven consecutive years exhibited in the Royal Academy; Constant and Vibert, French painters, and Tissot, who preached so impressively the gospel in colors in his series upon the life of Christ.

## Designer of Capitol.

In architecture, Clark, architect of the Capitol. Nor must we omit to mention Nast, father of American caricature, who originated the tiger and elephant of American politics.

In sculpture, Antokolsky, a genius and inspiration to Russia, whose work, such as "Ivan the Terrible," "Christ Before the People," and "A Christian Martyr," are among the greatest of the past century.

In music, Watson, Lane, Urso, eminent violinists and composers; Perkins, composer; Warren, organist, and Wurden, author of "Listen to the Mocking Bird" and hosts of melodies of the civil war, among which was "Give Us Back Our Old Commander," which was introduced by the Government because of its influence.

In science, Holmes and Wheelock, inventors; Ames, botanist; Cleveland, genealogist; Huxman, paleontologist, and Powell, eminent naturalist.

In exploration, Curate and Holbuh, African explorers, and Wundt, who recently adventured from Paris to New York by land, except a Berlin Straits.

In literature, Stevens, biographer; Hopkins, of the "Scientific American"; Scudder, of the "Atlantic Monthly"; Guernsey, of "Harper's"; and, greatest of all, Godkin, of the "New York Evening Post"; Stebbins, dramatic and historical writer; Butler, author of "Nothing to Wear" and English author of "Ben Bolt"; Paul Leicester Ford, of beautiful promise, but sudden and tragic end; Eggleston, preacher, novelist, journalist, historian, whose aim was to cause Americans to know their brothers; Stockton, most representative and buoyant of humorists, adding largely to the pleasures of life and the good cheer of human fellowship, a national benefactor; Zola, whose life was a drama, eager, impetuous, ambitious, original, and versatile, whose influence was unhealthy, and evanescent, and Henky, author of more than eighty boys' books which have encircled and overspread the earth.

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In politics Commissioner Ross, good citizen and faithful officer of this District; United States Senator McMillan, kindly, genial, generous, the manly man, the true friend, the patriotic citizen, the honored Senator, whose abiding monument will be in the enlarged life and beauty of the Capital. Morton, former Secretary of Agriculture, whose memory will be kept green by Arbor Day. Altgeld, most powerful leader of extreme radicalism, of tremendous energy, and acknowledged honesty, but with a dangerous genius for destruction. Ex-Speaker Reed, honest, strong, keen, fearless, clear-eyed, and contemptuous; his great venom will be his consummate demonstration of the power of the majority to rule. And Cecil Rhodes, the most commanding figure, an empire builder, whose dreams were limited by the power of money, whose ideals were exclusively material, whose religion was the sensual idolatry of mere size, who attained a United South Africa, but by a cold-blooded selfishness which trampled over mountains of corpses and through streams of blood.

In war Botha, a hero of our modern Thermopylae; Sigel and Wade Hampton, whose very names waken echoes of the civil war, and Sampson, scientist, mathematician, and naval officer, whose attainments and industry early brought high reward, but who sadly went down amid the din of a rancorous dispute—a pathetic picture of Fortune fluttering her wings and fleeing away in the supreme moment of privilege and opportunity.

## Famed in Church Work.

In ecclesiastical life Rabbi Joseph, chief rabbi of orthodox Jews in America; Archbishop of Canterbury; Archbishops Feehan and Corrigan, wise and distinguished in Roman Catholic administration; Bishops Vaughn, Whittle, Thompson, Spalding, but greatest of all, Bishop Taylor, often spoken of as the greatest missionary since Paul, ranking with Xavier and Judson, street preacher in California, evangelist in Canada, then in Ireland and England, then two and a half years in Australia, where he gathered 6,000 converts; then to South Africa, where he gathered more than 7,000 converts; sailing up unexplored rivers, sleeping in jungles and amid savages, defying death that he might preach Christ; then to South America, and then to India upon the same evangelizing errand, and at sixty-three ordained a missionary to Africa by the Methodist Church, he gave there twelve years of service, with the grip of a giant and the fervor of a seraph. In contrast note the departure of Sumi Vivekananda, whose handsome face and Oriental costume and specious philosophy made him a drawing-room fad for silly women and a comfortable excuse for easygoing and unthinking Christians.

Gallaudet, the preacher of the deaf mutes; Needham, the evangelist; Birch, positive, orthodox, earnest; Palmer, whose sermon in the 60's precipitated the rebellion, whose eloquence held the South, and whose attractive virtues made him the first citizen of New Orleans; Talmage, popular, spectacular, vigorous, direct, evangelical, with a genius for words, whose public address was an odd mixture of the colloquial and rhetorical, whose congregation was the English-speaking world, who left no permanent influence of value, but who, while living, helped and inspired the multitude; Newman Hall, whose "Come to Jesus" has spoken in millions of copies and many tongues; Hugh Price Hughes, earnest, versatile, and accomplished preacher of social reforms, and Joseph Parker, strong of intellect, original in exposition, dominant and dramatic of speech, the commanding preacher of London.

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PUNISHMENT OF CRIME  
VIEWED FROM PULPIT

The Rev. John Van Schaick Lectures on Treatment of Criminals in Series on "Darkest Washington."

The eleventh of a series of twelve lectures on "Darkest Washington" was delivered last evening by the Rev. John Van Schaick, Jr., who took as his topic "Crimes Against Criminals." The text was "Remember them that are in bonds as bound with them," Hebrews xiii:3. The speaker also acknowledged his indebtedness to Col. Robert Ingersoll, who in 1890 delivered an address before the New York State Bar Association upon the same subject, "Crimes Against Criminals." Of that orator and his lecture, the Rev. Mr. Van Schaick said:

"The great orator took the ground that criminals are not responsible for their acts. 'Is it not possible,' he asks, 'is it not probable, is it not true that the actions of all men are determined by countless causes over which they have no positive control?' He then proceeds to show that throughout all history governments have acted as if criminals were entirely responsible and have imprisoned, tortured and killed in order to punish. Ingersoll said: 'Crimes have been committed to prevent crimes, and crimes have been committed to punish crimes.'"

Of local conditions, the Rev. Mr. Van Schaick said in part:

"I do not subscribe to the doctrine of human irresponsibility. I believe that God has given us wills and that we are free to use them. But, however much normal men may be responsible, abnormal men, feeble-minded, idiotic, insane, drunken, and the true criminal are not altogether responsible. The state has come to recognize that the demented should have a physician and not a cell. In Iowa the principle has been extended to the drunkard, and he also is given an asylum with proper medical treatment."

"Great experts have been at work upon 'the psychology of the criminal mind' and the results are slowly convincing mankind that our practice of shutting such unfortunates up for long or short periods and then turning them loose upon society, is a practice based upon neither reason, humanity, nor common sense."

"Let us bring the question home. I have been an interested spectator in both branches of the Police Court many times. I have been impressed with the earnestness and fidelity of able men working under the handicap of a false system. I have been startled to see the opportunity for black injustice in the hands of men tyrannical, bigoted or corrupt. It is only fair to say that our justices themselves realize the disadvantage at which they are put by the law as it stands."

"In the first place, most offenses may be condoned by the payment of money. It is a serious thing to take away human freedom. It is a light thing to impose a fine. When the wheels of justice stop running for the day, the prisoners are separated. If a man has the \$5 he is released. If he has \$4.99 he is shut up—as has been said, 'not for his crime, but for the want of a cent.' He may come up a dozen times and buy his way out every time. It seems to me simply common sense that if for the good of society he should be put away, money ought not save him. He ought to go because he is a criminal and not because he is a poor man. Congress should abolish at once the fine as an alternative to imprisonment."

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The same old faces up before the judges all the time.

"Abolish the short sentence. It may seem hard to deprive of freedom for years because one simply engaged in a drunken brawl, but the harshness disappears when we look upon the offender as a patient needing treatment, not punishment."

"In the third place provide for adequate treatment of the criminal. In the District of Columbia we might begin with the jail. It is a warm, comfortable lodging house, where some people like to go to get three square meals a day, a good place to sleep and all without work. Work is a great educator. We might at least provide that."

"Behind the Times.

"We are behind the times in administering for criminals. We regard them as so many people to be shut up for just so long. Other cities have come to see that the criminal is a defective man or woman, defective mentally, morally or physically, and that like the insane, he must be cared for until cured."

"One of the greatest strides made in the District of Columbia was in the establishment some twenty months ago, of the Juvenile Court. All persons under seventeen are arraigned here instead of with old offenders. Instead of dismissing or sending to the jail or workhouse, the justice may dismiss, commit to the Board of Children's Guardians, or to the Reform School. A probation officer is provided and youthful offenders dismissed on probation are watched, encouraged, the parents talked to and every effort made to save them from a criminal life. If this is not effective they are brought back and sent to a school to be educated until twenty-one. None of this machinery is perfect. It takes time to get hold of the right men to run machinery, but to my mind it is full of hope for the future."

"It marks the introduction of the principle of reform instead of vindictive punishment into the criminal procedure of the District of Columbia. The day is coming soon, I believe, when this principle will be extended to all of the criminal courts of the District and the country."

"Sentences will be indeterminate; that is, for no definite time. They will depend upon the behavior and progress of the criminal. He will be treated like a man and not a thing. Think you that self-respect can be inculcated by a striped suit, and a number instead of a name? 'He will begin work. If a poor negro, for example, he will be taught a trade. He will be under the influence of teachers firm yet sympathetic. When he comes out he will be helped in his new life. The day of the brutal keeper, solitary confinement, enforced idleness, or labor without hope has passed."

"Put Them Away Till Cured.

"Probation officers will be provided for all the courts. If it is a first offense, or a slight one, prisoners will be released and encouraged by these officers, who will follow their careers, to do better. If they don't do better, if they are a menace to society, they will not be fined once a month or shut up three or four times a year. They will be put away until cured."

"The head of the workhouse in future will rank in dignity with the president of a college.

"Adequate treatment of the criminal means education when imprisoned and encouragement when freed."

"Society is guilty of indifference and aversion toward the man once behind the bars. We force him back into a life of crime because we shut the door of useful employment. I am glad that in this District the 'Prisoners' Aid Society' is doing such a noble work. It is under the auspices of the Episcopal Church and it is an honor to that great body. Although of another communion, I am proud to be a member."

"All punishment, human or divine, is remedial if it is just. It is to make men better. We may be justified in shutting up for a lifetime. We are not justified in taking away the life. The criminal, be he ever so low, foul, brutal, or bloody, is our brother. Let us restore such a one in a spirit of meekness, considering ourselves lest we also be tempted."

"The head of the workhouse in future will rank in dignity with the president of a college.

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